

REMARKS

The present communication is responsive to the Official Action mailed April 5, 2004, rejecting all the claims pending in the application, namely claims 1-6. Of the pending claims, claims 1 and 4 are independent. Claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1 and claims 5 and 6 depend from claim 4.

Claim 1 has been amended to improve its form. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claim 1 are cosmetic in nature and do not constitute the addition of new matter.

Claim 4 has been amended to now recite "conveying digital data to a plurality of outputs on an apparatus . . . and controlling each of said plurality of outputs such that said digital data is output from only a specified one of said plurality of outputs according to said predetermined copy control data." The amendments to claim 4 are to improve its form, as well to clarify the claimed invention of claim 4. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claim 4 do not constitute the addition of new matter.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,256,390 to *Okuyama et al.* ("*Okuyama*").

With regard to claim 1, the Examiner asserts that *Okuyama* discloses a data processing apparatus comprising "a plurality of output terminals (e.g., 110, 111, 112, 113; see Fig. 23) for outputting digital data" (Official Action at 2). Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner. *Okuyama* clearly states that "In FIG. 23, a set top box (hereinafter referred to as an STB) is connected to devices 110 to 113 via a bus 100." (*Okuyama*, col. 26, lns. 43-44.) With regard to Figure 23, *Okuyama* further states:

The bus 100 is an IEEE 1394 cable, for example. It is connected to the devices 110 to 113 having 1394 controlling circuits 108a to 108d with the configuration similar to that of the 1394 controlling circuit 108. The devices 110 to 113 are, for example, a television set (TV), a DVC, a DVC-RAM, and an HDD respectively.

(Id., col. 27, lns. 14-19 (emphasis added).) As such, the plurality of output terminals to which the Examiner points to in *Okuyama* are not on a single apparatus or device, as is required by claim 1, but are instead on four separate devices. Of course, four devices, each having four separate output terminals is not identical to "A data processing apparatus, comprising: a plurality of output terminals for outputting digital data." The Examiner's rejection of claim 1 is deficient for at least the foregoing reason.

In addition, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, those devices do not include "a control means for controlling each of said plurality of output terminals such that said digital data is output from only a specified one of said plurality of output terminals according to said predetermined copy control data" as is recited in claim 1. In particular, in rejecting claim 1 the Examiner also asserts that:

a control means (via STB 101 — see figure 23) for controlling each said output terminal such that said digital data is output from only a specified one of said plurality of output terminals according to said predetermined copy control data (the devices 110-113 receives the channel it desires only from the channels supplies [sic] from STB 101 via a bus 100, based on the copy generation management information. For example, the copy prohibition signal '11' as the copy generation management information of channel B in the multi-channel broadcasting signal, the receiving devices 111 and 113 can not receive channel B among the desired channels in the broadcasting signal (copy protection). If detection of '10' or '00' as the copy generation management information of channel B in the multi-channel

broadcasting signals, the devices 111 and 113 can receive all channels — see col. 29-30, lines 62-10; col. 29, lines 15-37; col. 30, lines 39-50.)

(Official Action at 2-3.) Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of "a control means" as being disclosed by *Okuyama*.

In particular, the Examiner asserts that *Okuyama's* STB 101 includes the claimed control means. The multiple broadcast signals received by STB 101 are disclosed as being output to the data bus 100 via IEEE 1394 controlling circuit 108. (*Id.*, col. 27, lns. 14-19.) The devices 110 to 113 are also connected to the data bus 100. However, the IEEE 1394 bus is a serial interface and the STB 101 acts as the sending device and the parent, while the devices 110 to 113 act as receivers and children. (*Id.*, lns. 33-37.) As such, the STB 101 communicates with the devices 110 to 113 over the IEEE 1394 bus and "controls copying by asynchronous communication with the devices using asynchronous communication transmission function." (*Id.*, lns. 38-44.) In particular, the STB 101 controls copying by determining which channels of the multiple channel broadcasts can be copied based on a copy prohibition signal. (*Id.*, col. 28, ln. 48 to col. 30, ln. 56.) When a receiving device requests receipt of a particular channel from STB 101, STB 101 sends that channel to the receiving device as long as copying of the particular channel is not prohibited. (*Id.*) As such, the terminals that are controlled by STB 101 are entirely on separate devices connected to STB 101 via the serial IEEE 1394 bus 100.

To be clear, what the Examiner fails to appreciate is that each of the devices on the bus 100 is a separate device. In addition, the Examiner fails to appreciate that each of the output ports or terminals that he refers to are on separate devices. As such, applicants respectfully submit

that STB 101 is not disclosed as having any means "for controlling each of said plurality of output terminals such that said digital data is output from only a specified one of said plurality of output terminals according to said predetermined copy control data." Specifically, the other output terminals to which the Examiner refers are on separate devices. As such, for at least this additional reason, claim 1 is not anticipated by *Okuyama*.

As claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1, applicants respectfully submit that these claims are also not anticipated by *Okuyama* for at least the foregoing reasons.

The Examiner rejected claim 4 on the same grounds as he rejected claim 1. Therefore, for at least the reasons provided above, claim 4 is also not anticipated by *Okuyama*. In particular, *Okuyama* does not disclose "conveying digital data to a plurality of outputs on an apparatus" as is recited in claim 4. In addition, *Okuyama* does not disclose "controlling each of said plurality of outputs such that said digital data is output from only a specified one of said plurality of outputs according to said predetermined copy control data." As such, applicants respectfully submit that *Okuyama* does not anticipate claim 4. Inasmuch as claims 5 and 6 depend from claim 4, applicants also respectfully submit that these claims are not anticipated for at least the foregoing reasons.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicants' attorney at

(908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: July 12, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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